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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/607,768	06/30/2000	Jon Ebbe Brelin	80398P310	2604

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EXAMINER

CHEN, ALAN S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2182

DATE MAILED: 02/23/2004

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/607,768

Applicant(s)

BRELIN ET AL.

Examiner

Alan S Chen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 January 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-44 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 12 and 32-44 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 8-10, 13, 15-22 and 24-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 7, 14, 23 and 31 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 02 January 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED FINAL ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

2. Claims 1-6, 8-10 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by TA Document 1999025 to 1394 Trade Association.

3. As per claim 1, TA Document 1999025 a serial bus to connect devices (page 11, section 1.1, not the 1394 is a serial bus not a system bus, but in a system that comprises another computer, the computer interacting with the 1394 has a system bus, e.g., bus of the backplane on the computer); the serial bus connected to a first and second device (page 11, section 1.1); a data structure within the first device comprising a hierarchy of descriptors (page 52, Fig. 8.1 and Fig. 6.2), the data structure consisting of a list identifier and an object identifier (page 54, Fig. 8.6 and page 128, Fig. 8.71), wherein the second device accesses a descriptor in the hierarchy using a command (opcode for Entry/Object Number Select) containing the descriptor specifier for the entry.

4. As per claims 2, TA Document 1999025 discloses the system of claim 1, wherein one of a first list descriptor and a second list descriptor has information about a first list (Fig. 6.2, multiple lists may have information about a particular list).

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5. As per claims 3, TA Document 1999025 discloses the system of claim 1, wherein an unambiguous specification of a descriptor is made through a descriptor specifier (page 52, Table 8.2 clearly descriptor specifiers).

6. As per claims 4, TA Document 1999025 discloses the system of claim 2, wherein the information about the first list is places in a second list (Fig. 6.2, one particular list has specific information about a second list).

7. As per claim 5, TA Document 1999025 discloses the system of claim 4, wherein the second list has a beginning and an end; and the information is placed at the end of the second list (Fig. 7.2, all lists have a starting address and end address).

8. As per claims 6 and 13, TA Document 1999025 discloses the system and method of claims 4 and 8, respectively, wherein the information for the first list is placed in the second list in an extended_information field (page 33, Fig. 7.2).

9. As per claim 8, TA Document 1999025 discloses a method comprising: coupling a first device and second device to a serial bus (page 11, section 1.1); placing into a data structure a descriptor specifier which specifies an entry, the descriptor specifier consisting of a list identifier and an object identifier (page 54, Fig. 8.6 and page 128, Fig. 8.71) and the data structure comprising a hierarchy of descriptors as entries (page 52, Fig. 8.1 and Fig. 6.2).

10. As per claim 9, TA Document 1999025 discloses claim 8, further comprising: opening the data structure by the first device; and reading at least one entry in the data structure by a second device (page 51, section 8.1 on read and open descriptors).

11. As per claim 10, TA Document 1999025 discloses claim 8, comprising embedding information about a parent entry within a child list descriptor (section 8.4.1.3.3).

12. Claims 15-22 and 24-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by TA Document 1999025 to 1394 Trade Association.

In reference to claim 15 and 21, TA Document 1999025 discloses the method comprising using a descriptor specifier that specifies an entry by the descriptor specifier consisting of a list_ID and object_ID ((page 54, Fig. 8.6 and page 128, Fig. 8.71).

In reference to claim 16, TA Document 1999025 discloses the method of claim 15, further comprising opening the descriptor using the descriptor specifier (Table 8.12 and 8.13).

In reference to claim 17, TA Document 1999025 discloses the method of claim 15, further comprising embedding information about the parent entry (root) within the hierarchy (Fig. 6.3).

In reference to claim 18, TA Document 1999025 discloses the method of claim 17, further comprising placing the information about the parent entry at an end of a child list (see section 8.4.1.3.3).

In reference to claim 19, TA Document 1999025 discloses the method of claim 17, further comprising reading the information from an extended_information field (Fig. 7.1).

In reference to claim 20, TA Document 1999025 discloses the method of claim 19, further comprising using a descriptor specifier for opening a corresponding parent entry (Table 8.1, 8.13 and Fig. 8.26).

In reference to claim 22, TA Document 1999025 discloses a method of claim 21, further comprising placing the parent descriptor info block in an extended_information field (Fig. 7.3).

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In reference to claim 24, TA Document 1999025 discloses a method of claim 21 further comprising embedding information about a parent entry within a list descriptor (Fig. 6.5, Root List Descriptor).

In reference to claim 25, TA Document 1999025 discloses a method of claim 21, further comprising placing the information about the entry in a child list (see section 8.4.1.3.3).

In reference to claim 26, TA Document 1999025 discloses a method comprising embedding a parent descriptor info block within a list descriptor (Fig. 6.5, under Root List Descriptor).

In reference to claim 27, TA Document 1999025 discloses the method of claim 26, further comprising placing the descriptor specifier for the parent (root) descriptor in one of a root list descriptor (Fig. 6.5, under Root List Descriptor) and a child list descriptor (Fig. 6.5, under Other List Descriptor).

In reference to claim 28 and 29, TA Document 1999025 discloses the method of claim 27 wherein the root list has a first and second position (Fig. 6.5, under Root List Descriptor, has two entries) and the child list has a third and fourth position (Fig. 6.5, under Other List Descriptor). In both cases, the descriptor specifier can be placed in the last position.

In reference to claim 30, TA Document 1999025 discloses the method of claim 27 further comprising: using the descriptor specifier in a descriptor command for opening the parent entry (Table 8.13).

Response to Arguments

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13. Applicant's arguments, see page 11, filed 1/2/2004, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 12 under U.S.C. §112 second paragraph have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn.

14. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-6, 8-10, 13, 14, 44 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

15. Applicant's arguments filed 1/2/2004, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 11, 15-22, 24-30 under U.S.C. §103(a) and U.S.C. §102(b), respectively have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Examiners reasons are given below.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

Claims 11, 15-22, 24-30

16. Applicant argues independent claims 15, 21 and 26 claims a descriptor specifier that consists of a list identifier and an object identifier. TA Document 1999025 does not teach or suggest a description specifier with this particular combination of identifiers. The Examiner pointed to page 85 as disclosing a description specifier consisting of a list identifier and an object identifier. Applicant assumes the Examiner is referring to the highlighted portion of page 85 because that is the only place on page 85 "object_ID" is mentioned. However, the highlighted portion states that a list descriptor may be accessed using a list_ID OR an object_ID but does not teach or suggest using the combination of a list_ID and an object_ID as a description specifier to access a list descriptor. Therefore, TA Document 1999025 does not teach each and every limitation of Applicant's invention as claimed in claims 15, 22 and 24, 30.

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17. Examiner does not agree that TA Document 1999025 does not show using a description specifier consisting of a list identifier and an object identifier. Using Fig. 8.1 of TA Document 1999025, one can see that it is well established that the description specifier is the whole data structure, including descriptor_specifier_type and descriptor_specifier_type_specific_fields. It can be seen in Fig. 8.2.1.5 that a descriptor_specifier_type = 21₁₆, indicating specification by object identifier (Object_ID), the list identifier (root_list_ID) is part of the object identifier because it is the entry under which the object_ID exists. Therefore, the object identifier and the list identifier go hand in hand. An even more specific example of when the descriptor specifier consists of a list identifier and an object identifier is looking at the Descriptor Commands, specifically, the Object Number Select Opcode (pg. 51). The Object Number Select Opcode requires an object identifier AND a list identifier. Details of the contents of the specifier can be seen on page 128. the selection_indicator the object_ID and the root_list_ID is the list_ID.

Allowable Subject Matter

18. Claims 12, 32-44 are allowed.

19. Claims 7, 14, 23 and 31 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is the statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The prior art disclosed by the applicant and cited by the Examiner fail to teach or suggest, alone or in combination the ability to navigate backwards in a descriptor hierarchy.

Conclusion

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20. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

21. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alan S Chen whose telephone number is 703-605-0708. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30am - 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey A Gaffin can be reached on 703-308-3301. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


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2/20/2004


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